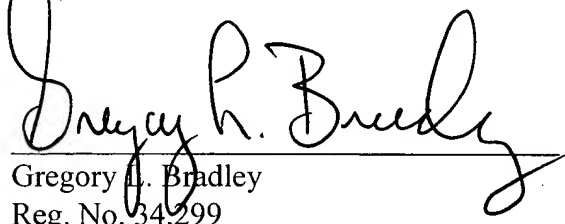


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted to further define Applicants' invention. New claim 21 is supported by the specification and Figures 11-13C of the drawings. No new matter has been added by the amendments.

Further, Applicants submit that new claim 21 is readable on the species of Figures 11-13C.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on January 25, 2001, with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Gregory L. Bradley  
